

# PROJECT 10073 RECORD CARD

1. DATE October 1957		2. LOCATION Angelus Crest Hwy, California		12. CONCLUSIONS <input type="checkbox"/> Was Balloon <input type="checkbox"/> Probably Balloon <input type="checkbox"/> Possibly Balloon  <input type="checkbox"/> Was Aircraft <input type="checkbox"/> Probably Aircraft <input type="checkbox"/> Possibly Aircraft  <input type="checkbox"/> Was Astronomical <input type="checkbox"/> Probably Astronomical <input type="checkbox"/> Possibly Astronomical  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other <u>hoax</u> <input type="checkbox"/> Insufficient Data for Evaluation <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown	
3. DATE-TIME GROUP Local <u>unknown</u> GMT		4. TYPE OF OBSERVATION <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ground-Visual <input type="checkbox"/> Ground-Radar <input type="checkbox"/> Air-Visual <input type="checkbox"/> Air-Intercept Radar			
5. PHOTOS <input type="checkbox"/> Yes Physical <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Specimen		6. SOURCE Civilian			
7. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION NA		8. NUMBER OF OBJECTS one		9. COURSE NA	
10. BRIEF SUMMARY OF SIGHTING A small guided-missile-appearing object was submitted to PIO office, Hollywood. Object had Russian markings. Photographs on file.  See specimen 7-3745-454 In following folder				11. COMMENTS Object was hoax. No means for propulsion, Russian script was amateurish, and couplings (brand new) were strictly US type w/ US markings. The aluminum fins had ALCOA markings on them. Finder admitted making object to play "prank" on boss.	



**PUBLIC INFORMATION DIVISION  
OFFICE, SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE  
6085 SUNSET BLVD  
HOLLYWOOD 28, CALIF.**

**MAISON 5-7411 Ext 341**

**30 October 1957**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**In this close-up photo, an analysis expert holds a cable connector, which matches perfectly with one used in a three-foot object, bearing Russian writing, which the Air Force has found to be a hoax. Col. Donn E. Hess, director of the Los Angeles Office of Information Services, said the object was "absolutely useless."**



## JOINT MESSAGEFORM

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

SPACE BELOW RESERVED FOR COMMUNICATION CENTER

UNCLASSIFIED

49 E 1C  
5/16/57

PRECEDENCE	TYPE MSG (Check)			ACCOUNTING SYMBOL	ORIG. OR REFERS TO	CLASSIFICATION OF REFERENCE
ACTION ROUTINE	BOOK	MULTI	SINGLE	AF		
INFO			X			

FROM: COMDR ATIC

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS

TO: DET 2, ATIC, WESTERN OFFICE  
PASADENA, CALIFORNIA

/UNCL/FROM: AFCIN-4E4 12-1913-E

IN RECEIPT OF PHOTOS OF ROCKET-LIKE OBJECT BEARING RUSSIAN WRITING, OBVIOUS HOAX. REQUEST DETAILED INFO. REGARDING CIRCUMSTANCES, AND ANY INDICATION OF PRINCIPALS OR SOURCES THAT MAY BE INVOLVED FOR CASE FILES HERE. STATISTICAL SURVEY OF HOAXES AND ATTEMPTED HOAXES HAS BEEN REQUESTED BY HQ USAF. INFO REQUIRED TO COMPLETE COMPILATION. REFER TO UFO UNIT, AFCIN-4E4, IN REPLY.

## COORDINATION

AFCIN-4E4 Hailey DATE 3 Dec 57AFCIN-4E for DATE 7 Dec 57AFCIN-4X1 Col H.K. Gilbert DATE 4 Dec

MR. DECKER

DATE 03 TIME 1230

MONTH DEC YEAR 57

WRITER	SYMBOL	AFCIN-4E4 <u>George G. Gregory</u>		RELEASED	SIGNATURE	<u>Robert E. O'Connor</u>
	TYPED NAME AND TITLE (Signature, if required)				TYPED (or stamped) NAME AND TITLE	
	Capt G.T. Gregory					
	PHONE	PAGE NR.	NR. OF PAGES		ROBERT E. O'CONNOR Captain, USAF Assistant Adjutant	
SECURITY CLASSIFICATION			UNCLASSIFIED			

DD FORM 173, 1 OCT 49, WHICH WILL BE USED UNTIL EXHAUSTED



# DISPOSITION FORM

95  
SECURITY CLASSIFICATION (If any)

FILE NO.

SUBJECT UFO Hoax

TO AFCIN-4E4

FROM Western Office, ATIC

DATE 10 Dec 57

COMMENT NO. 1

Lt Col Mitchell/ck

1. Reference your message AFCIN-4E4 cite 12-1913-E, the following information pertaining to the hoax perpetrated recently by an individual in Van Nuys, California, is submitted.

Mr. [REDACTED], an employee of Bendix Radio, Van Nuys, California, reported to his supervisor at Bendix to display a "finned missile like" object he [REDACTED] had ostensibly found in the mountains near Angelus Crest Highway. The supervisor placed the object in the hands of Bendix police, who in turn released it to Van Nuys police.

At this point the Air Force Office of Public Information was called to aid in identification of the object. The Western Office, ATIC was requested by AF PIO to assist. The object was easily identified as being locally built and ATIC was so informed.

Unfortunately, a vast amount of publicity accompanied the series of events; publicity, which Mr. [REDACTED] did not relish; since it was later determined that he had meant only to play a joke on his supervisor. He became concerned about "how things got out of hand" in view of the mounting publicity. In order to rectify the situation he called the AF PIO and admitted having made the object himself, but only as a joke to play on his supervisor. He intended that it end there.

Air Force PIO, Hollywood, promised Mr. [REDACTED] not repeat not to release the details presented above since the individual concerned would probably suffer loss of his job or other possible embarrassment. This office felt obligated to comply with their request.

The object has been shipped to ATIC, Attention: Major Smith, AFCIN-4A.

*Max O. Mitchell*  
MAX O. MITCHELL  
Lt Colonel, USAF  
Chief, Western Office, ATIC

Rec'd AFCIN-4E4  
17 Dec 57  
10:30  
[initials]



JOINT MESSAGEFORM				SECURITY CLASSIFICATION <b>UNCLASSIFIED</b>	
SPACE BELOW RESERVED FOR COMMUNICATION CENTER					
PRECEDENCE		TYPE MSG (Check)		ACCOUNTING SYMBOL	ORIG. OR REFERS TO
ACTION: ROUTINE		BOOK	MULTI	X	AF
INFO					
FROM: COMDR ATIC					SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS
TO: DET 2, ATIC, WESTERN OFFICE PASADENA, CALIFORNIA					
<p style="text-align: right; font-size: large; margin-right: 50px;">12-1988-E</p> <p>/UNCL/FROM: AFCIN-4E4</p> <p>REF YOUR DF, DATED 10 DEC 57 IN REPLY TO OUR TT MSG FOR DETAILS. COPY OF PHOTO, MATERIAL AND INFO. UP TO THE TIME OF ORIGINAL RECEIPT IN HQ, USAF, SUBMITTED IN COMPLIANCE WITH INTELLIGENCE AND PIO POLICIES REGARDING HOAXES, WHICH HAVE BEEN GREATLY INCREASING THIS YEAR. POSSIBILITY THAT ALL, INCLUDING THE HOAX YOU REPORTED, MAY BE PRESENTED ON A NATION-WIDE PROGRAM. REPLY TO OUR QUERY BY TELETYPE MSG, INSTEAD OF DF WOULD HAVE <del>BEEN</del> <sup>BTG</sup> <del>ARRIVED</del> HERE IN TIME FOR PREVENTIVE ACTION. YOUR DF RECEIVED 17 DEC. WILL CONTACT PIO, HQS USAF, WITH SUGGESTION THAT IF TO BE RELEASED AS PART OF SERIES, THAT NAME AND LOCATIONS OF THE "VAN NUYS HOAX" NOT BE USED.</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: large; margin-top: 20px;">ATIC</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; align-items: flex-end;"> <div> <p>COORDINATION 11 DEC 21 14 32</p> <p>AFCIN-4E4 DATE 17 Dec 57</p> </div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p>DATE 17 TIME 1313</p> <p>MONTH DEC YEAR 57</p> </div> </div>					
<p>SYMBOL</p> <p>AFCIN-4E4</p> <p>TYPED NAME AND TITLE (Signature required)</p> <p>Capt. G. T. Gregory</p> <p>PHONE 69216</p> <p>SECURITY CLASSIFICATION</p> <p style="font-size: large; text-align: center;">UNCLASSIFIED</p>		<p style="text-align: center; font-size: large; border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;">RECEIVED</p> <p>SIGNATURE</p> <p style="font-size: large; text-align: center;">T. J. CONNOR JR.</p> <p>TYPED (or stamped) NAME AND TITLE</p> <p>T. J. CONNOR JR.</p> <p>MAJOR, USAF</p> <p>4-01143</p>			

DD FORM 173 MAY 55

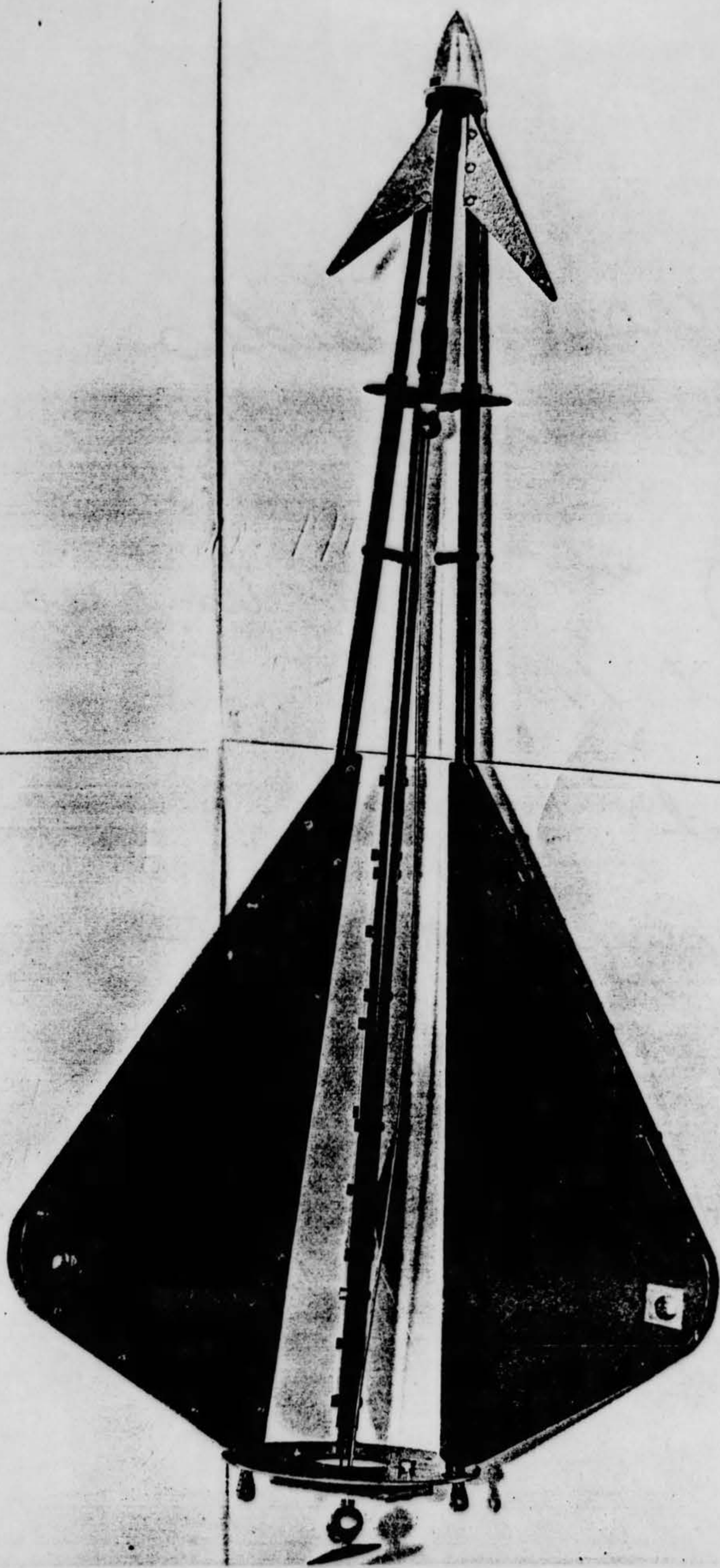
REPLACES DD FORM 173, 1 OCT 49, WHICH WILL BE USED UNTIL EXHAUSTED



This case includes  
three 8'x10' photos of  
sighting in Los Angeles area  
Oct 1957

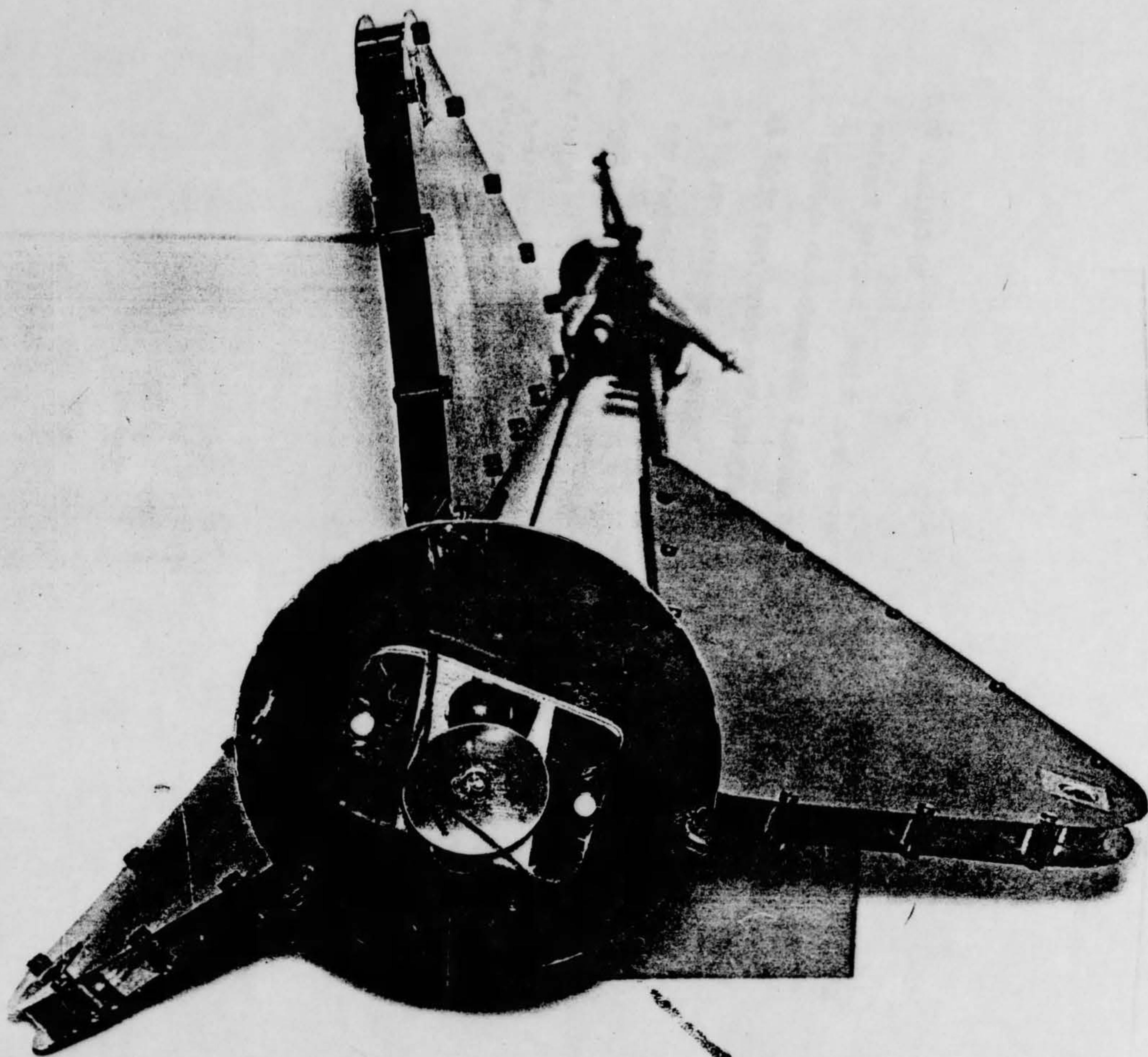
and  
physical specimens see  
following folder





10 X





RUSSIA-1  
CHAIIKA



HEADLINE 9-7411 Not 341

30 October 1977

Figure above is a close-up of a three foot object, bearing Russian writing, alongside which are displayed several American-made objects which match perfectly those within the object. The spinner at right is of the kind used on metal airplanes. Nuts, bolts and spacers are of a type which can be purchased anywhere. The three-foot long object was declared to be a hoax by Col. Donn F. Hoab, <sup>PS:10131</sup> ~~Director~~ of the Los Angeles Office Of Information Services, after analysis by experts.

Object is, "useless". Many of the parts within it are U.S. war-surplus items. The cable connector in the object bore the name "Massachusetts" in tiny letters, which were hidden by the paint.



